

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-20 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /122 W

-----128550 020951Z /13

P 020941Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7624

UNCLAS TOKYO 07957

PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, JA, US

SUBJECT: STRAUSS/USHIBA FOLLOW UP: CITRUS IMPORTS

--GOJ "GUIDANCE"

1. ACCORDING TO MAF SOURCE, IN MAY 1 MEETING WITH 97
ORANGE IMPORT LICENSE HOLDERS, GOJ OFFICIALS DESCRIBED
FOLLOWING AS "DESIRABLE ACTIONS" AND/OR "FAIR WARNINGS"
IN IMPLEMENTING THE 22,500 SEASONAL QUOTA:

A. IMPORTS SHOULD TAKE PLACE ON A STABLE BASIS FROM
EARLY JUNE THRU MID-AUGUST.

B. IMPORTS TOWARD THE END OF AUGUST SHOULD BE AVOIDED
AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND IMPORTER TO WHOLESALE SALES
SHOULD BE CONCLUDED BY THE END OF AUGUST.

C. QUALITY FRUITS RATHER THAN INFERIOR SHOULD BE
IMPORTED.

D. CONCERNED PARTIES SHOULD ABIDE BY JAPAN FOOD
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SANITATION MEASURES.

E. IMPORTERS THAT DO NOT PHYSICALLY IMPORT ORANGES(BY
TRADING OR SELLING THEIR ALLOTMENTS, ETC.) FACE THE
POSSIBILITY OF LOSING THEIR LICENSES IN FUTURE YEARS.

F. THE SMALLEST QUOTA HOLDERS WILL NOW HAVE THEIR SHARE

OF THE QUOTA RAISED TO A MINIMUM OF 60 METRIC TONS.

2. MAF OFFICIAL WAS REMINDED THAT U.S. UNDERSTANDING OF SEASONAL QUOTA IS 22,500 MT MAY BE FREELY IMPORTED BETWEEN JUNE 1 AND AUG 31 INCLUSIVE, AND THAT U.S. AND JAPANESE TRADERS WOULD NEED MAXIMUM TIME AVAILABLE TO SMOOTHLY IMPLEMENT THE SEASONAL QUOTA. FURTHERMORE, EVEN GOJ HAD INDICATED IMPORTS SHOULD BE EVENED OUT OVER 3 MONTHS, NOT CONCENTRATED IN ANY ONE TIME PERIOD.

3. MAF OFFICIAL SAID SOME IMPORTATION COULD AND PROBABLY WILL TAKE PLACE AS EARLY AS JUNE 1 AND AS LATE AS AUG 31, BUT THAT IN MEETING WITH IMPORTERS GOJ HAD EXPRESSED ITS "DESIRE" THAT IMPORTS SLACKEN DURING LAST 2 WEEKS OF AUGUST. NO FORMAL PENALTY SYSTEM TO INSURE THAT GOJ SUGGESTIONS ARE CARRIED OUT IS PLANNED AT THIS TIME, AND THE MAF OFFICIAL REPEATED ASSURANCE THAT FULL 22,500 MT SEASONAL QUOTA WOULD BE IMPORTED. SHERMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, CITRUS FRUITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO07957
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780186-0598
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197805100/aaaadhpi.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bb314693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION STR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2511497
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STRAUSS/USHIBA FOLLOW UP: CITRUS IMPORTS --GOJ \"GUIDANCE\"
TAGS: EAGR, JA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bb314693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014